State	Total quantity allotted (in tones)	
	Rice	Wheat
Orissa	48,000	12,300
Rajasthan	—	3,70,655
Gujarat	81,765	2,45,292
Maharashtra	1,64,456	3,28,912
Himachal Pradesh	55,965	—

Funds with FCI for grain procurement

1965. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether at present, there is a ceiling of Rs. 22,000 crores as funds available with FCI for grain procurement, which is ten times of its equity capital base;

(b) if so, whether because of the bumper crops during the last harvest, FCI had exhausted its funds by making optimum procurement through market interventions;

(c) whether the FCI has since suspended procurement for want of fund allocation;

(d) whether despite such constraints on the part of FCI, the Government of Andhra Pradesh is trying to secure market intervention by FCI in the State; and

(e) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) In terms of Section 27 of the Food Corporation's Act 1964 there was a ceiling on borrowings beyond ten times the paid up capital and the reserve fund, which worked out to Rs. 22945 Crores as on 22.5.2001. However, the said ceiling has already been removed

by an Ordinance, issued and notified in the Gazette of India vide Notification No. 20 dated 22.5.2001.

(b) The Reserve Bank of India has authorised enhanced Cash Credit Limit of Rs. 24,000 Crore for May, 2001, Rs. 26,500 Crore for June, Rs. 28,000 Crore for the month of July, 2001 and Rs. 28,500 Crore for the month of August, 2001 for Food procurement operations.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) There are no financial constraints on the part of Food Corporation of India.

(e) The quesfion does not arise.

Rising prices of foodgrains for PDS

1966. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that prices of foodgrains for PDS were raised exorbitantly during the budget 2000-2001;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether such increase was intended to reduce the level of food subsidy;

(d) if so, the details thereof and the actual level of subsidy incurred during 2000-2001 due to reduced off take, transportation and storage; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the massive resultant buffer stock had to be sought to be disposed by Government through auction to traders at prices less then that of the BPL price and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI SHRIRAM CHAUHAN): (a) and (b) With a view to neutralise the increase consequent upon the hike in Minimum Support Price of wheat and rice and to contain the food subsidy budget to a manageable level, the Government had decided with effect from 1.4.2000 to fix the Central Issue Prices (CIPs) at of 50%